

I am very concerned about the upcoming Sinclair Broadcasting program "Stolen Hours", which is an anti-Kerry documentary that Sinclair is requiring their stations to run two weeks before the election. This is an electioneering move that is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Since Sinclair uses free, public airwaves, their programming should reflect the public interest, not political agendas set forth by the owner of the company or a company's bottom line. Public interest TV should be showcasing substantive news about issues that count, matters that unite and provide a service to community, not smear tactics that go for the throat and undermine democracy, as "Stolen Hours" does.

As a member of the print media, I feel a responsibility to make sure my readers are informed in a non-partisan, positive way so they can make political decisions that are based on substantive information on issues. I expect nothing less from our electronic media.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.